monthly decline in employment was highest (8.58 percent) in Gems and Jewellery followed by Transport (4.03 percent), Automobiles (2.42 percent), Metals (1.91 percent), Textiles (0.91 percent) and Mining (0.33 percent). The major impact of the slowdown is noticed in the export oriented units.

Department of Commerce, Government of India have been undertaking sample surveys relating to reduction in exports and resultant job losses in export-related industries. In the updated sample survey on job losses for export-related industries for August, 2008 to 16 January, 2009, out of 402 units surveyed, the loss in export orders is around Rs. 6272 crores and loss of 1,09,513 jobs.

(c) Government is concerned about the impact of global financial crisis on the Indian economy and several measures financial and fiscal have been initiated to instil confidence in the economy, spur growth and overcome crisis. Some of the important steps relate to RBI measures to enhance liquidity in the market and two economic packages by the Government of India, mainly comprising additional spending, interest subvention and excise duty cuts.

In order to provide a social safety net, with effect from 01.04.2005, the Employees' State Insurance Corporation has introduced "Rajiv Gandhi Shramik Kalyan Yojana". Under the scheme, employees who lose their employment due to retrenchment, closure of factories/ establishments or permanent invalidity due to non-employment injury, after being insured for five or more years, are entitled to Unemployment Allowance in cash equal to 50% of their wage upto 1 year during his/her entire service. In addition, he and his family members are also entitled to medical care.

Increasing the rate of interest on Provident Fund

961. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to bring units with 10 workers under Provident Fund net;

(b) if so, the details worked out so far;

(c) the welfare measures taken for PF subscribers; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the rate of interest on PF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) and (b) On the receipt of recommendations of Central Board of Trustees (Employees' Provident Fund) for reducing the threshold limit for coverage from 20 to 10 under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, Government has initiated necessary action for amending the Act.

According to the Economic Census, 2005, there are 4,197 million persons employed in 3,17,755 establishments having size class of total employment between 10 to 19. The legislative proposal to reduce the threshold limit for coverage from 20 to 10 under the Employees' Provident

Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 would benefit a vast majority of persons employed in such establishments.

(c) The details of benefits available to members under the three Schemes framed under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 are given in the enclosed Statement. (*See* below).

(d) EPF rate is determined in accordance with paragraph 60(1) read with paragraph 60(4) of the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952. As per the provisions contained in paragraph 60(1), Employees' Provident Fund Organisation is required to credit interest on the balance available in the accounts of the EPF members at such rate as may be determined by the Central Government in consultation with the Central Board of Trustees.

Since September, 2008 Employees' Provident Fund Organisation has made efforts to increase its yields on investments by introducing multiple fund managers to manage its portfolio.

Statement

Details of benefits available to members under the three schemes framed under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.

Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952	Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995	Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976
— Accumulation plus interest upon retirement, resignation, death — Partial withdrawal/advance in certain cases *e.g.* housing, marriage, illness, etc.	— Monthly benefits for superannuation/retirement, disability, survivor widow(er), children, withdrawal benefit	— On death while in service, the nominee is entitled to receive an additional amount equal to average balance in PF account of the deceased employee during the preceding 12 months subject to a maximum ceiling of Rs. 60,000/-.

Employment generated by industries

962. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state the number of industries, manufacturing units in particular, established in various States and the number of employment generated thereof during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): A Statement showing the Industrial Investment Intentions and proposed employment generated through these investment intentions during the last three years, State-wise is enclosed.